assistance (ACA) for these seven Basic Minimum Services (BMS). The year-wise allocation of ACA made for BMS were Rs. 2244 crores in 1996-97, Rs. 2970 crores in 1997-98, Rs. 3410 crores in 1998-99 and Rs. 3700 crores in 1999-2000. The States and Union Territories have reported that the entire amount of ACA allocated for the BMS during the last three years has been fully utilized. In the Central Government's Budget 2000-2001, the ACA for BMS has been replaced by providing ACA for a new programme called Pradhan Mantri's Gramoday Yojana (PMGY).

Seizure of Indian Fishing Boats by Pakistan Marine Security Force

el08. SHRI PRAFULL GORADIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan Marine Security Force (PMSF) seized nine Indian fishing boats near Okha;

(b) whether PMSF captured these boats in the Indian waters;

(c) if so, whether Government have taken up the matter with the Pakistan Government; and

(d) if so, what action Government proposes to take to prevent such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) According to available information 12 fishings boats have been captured by Pakistan Marine Security Agency from/off the Okha/Jakhau area.

(b) The location of the seizure is not presently known.

(c) and (d) Government take up all cases of seizure of Indian fishing boats with Pakistan with a view to securing the release and repatriation of the boats and their crew members and continues to urge security agencies to maintain vigilance.